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MONTANA COMMITTEE FOR THE HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER

Angela Santamaria, Editor

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STATE DOCUMENTS

Tribal Constitutions: Their Past, Their Future

The Northern Cheyenne Tribe received a grant in excess of $12,000 from the Montana Committee for the Humanities. The grant will fund a Constitutional Forum to be held in Billings the evening of August 12 from 7-10 p.m., and all day on August 13 beginning at 8:30 a.m. The forum will involve the participation of the seven Indian Reservations in the state and will focus on the diverse future of these documents.

Speakers at the forum will include among others: Philip Martin, Former Chairman of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw; Alan Parker, Staff Attorney for the Temporary Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs; Sherwin Broadhead, Former BIA Superintendent for the Colville Tribe of Washington; Douglas Nash, General Counsel for the Umatilla Tribe of Oregon; and D'Arcy McNickle, Native Montanan and author.

Humanists who will participate in the conference include McNickle, Marge Brown, J. D. (Asst. Dean UM Law School and Ph.D. Candidate in History at UM); Dr. James Granzow (English, Lewistown College Center of the College of Great Falls); Dr. Kathy Jackson (Political Science, UM); Dr. Gary Kimble (Native American Studies UM); and Dr. James Lopach (Chairman, Political Science, UM). These scholars in the humanities will comment on the nature of traditional tribal governmental theory and organization. The key questions will concern the meaning of authentic Indian self-government. Were Indians forced to submit to radically alien forms and philosophies of societal organization under the Federal government's supervised constitution of activity in the 1930s? How useful today are these

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Treaty Arrangement, Oklahoma Territory, c. 1880, *Courtesy of Bill Farr, History Dept., UM, and the Sherburne Collection, UM.*

Upcoming Events in the Montana Public Program in the Humanities

July	
20 & 26	"Energy Bind-Outreach" workshops--Kalispell
25 - 26	"Ethical-Moral Dilemmas Involved in the Medical Management of Genetic and Birth Defects and Mental Retardation" conference--Helena
29	"Montana Death Trip" lecture/panel discussion--Bozeman
August	
5	"Montana Death Trip" lecture/panel discussion--Kalispell
3, 6, & 7	"Energy Bind - Outreach" workshops--Hamilton
12 - 13	"Tribal Constitutions" conference--Billings
26	"Montana Death Trip" lecture/panel discussion --Lame Deer

MCH Establishes Policy for Projects Involving Media Products

Projects involving the production of a film are considered for MCH grants *only if* their main purpose is to stimulate the discussion of public policy and related humanities issues. When funding for a media project is requested, several requirements apply.

First, in addition to meeting all requirements for non-media projects, applicants must apply for MCH monies in three separate phases: scripting, film production, and "outreach" (the panel discussions for live audiences.)

Application forms for each of these phases are available on request. These forms require information concerning the proposed format, personnel experience and other items. (Because many media projects are extremely expensive, this additional information is helpful in determining the probable success of the project, if funded.)

Second, all media applicants must make available to the Committee one or more samples of their work.

Finally, the MCH has certain policies relating to the copyright, distribution rights, credits and other rights or limits upon producers of MCH-funded media products. The MCH staff can provide an explanation of these policies upon request.

Grant Funds Available

All programs funded by the MCH must be aimed primarily at the out-of school adult public, involve scholars in the humanities in both their planning and presentation, and allow for the expression of various points of view on the issues under discussion.

Any non-profit organization or institution is eligible to apply for MCH grants. Such organizations include public libraries, museums, civic and church groups, historical societies, professional associations and unions, educational radio and television stations, colleges and universities, and adhoc groups.

The MCH particularly encourages projects which make imaginative use of humanities resources, including multi-media presentations involving literature, art, music, and poetry; projects which are sponsored by two or more broadly representative groups; and groups which do not usually have access to humanities programs, such as small town residents, retired citizens or hospital patients, and minority groups.

For grant application forms and further information contact the MCH office.

TRIBAL CONSTITUTIONS

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traditional Indian forms? Is the concept of tribal self-government in direct conflict with democratic representation of all legitimate interests that may be involved? Is tribal self-government immune to the growing threat of federal pre-emption in energy and environmental regulation? Humanities scholars on the program will have the task of keeping the conflicting values of self-government, representation, and participation in balance, given the diversity of interests and intensity of feelings that are affected.

The substantive policy issues regarding natural resource development are those that will find resolution in the broader political context. The formulation and implementation of policy decisions by tribal governments, by state and federal governments lend themselves to analysis by public policy analysts. Questions regarding the institutional framework as well as decision making processes employed are relevant to the discussion of tribal constitutions and government. Of further interest are questions regarding the impact of past policy decisions both at the federal and state level as these apply to reservations, particularly in the area of environmental protection and water rights.

Many tribes in Montana and elsewhere are becoming increasingly aware of the inadequacies of their constitutions when faced with issues as complex as resource development. This forum will provide the highlights of these important issues affecting tribal government. Given the amount of publicity these issues have met with in the media in the State of Montana, this forum should be an education for both Indians and non-Indians alike.

All presentations and panel discussions will be held at Petro Theater, Eastern Montana College in Billings and will be open to the public free of charge.

--Eric Metcalf
Project Director

MCH Grant Awards

The Ethical-Moral Dilemmas Involved in the Medical Management of Genetic and Birth Defects and Mental Retardation, submitted by the Genetic and Birth Defects Unit, Shodair Crippled Children's Hospital. Two 2-day seminars (July 25-26 and November, 1977) at Carroll College in Helena which will explore the ethical, moral and legal issues involved in medical management (surgical intervention, biochemical screening, etc.) of genetic and birth defects. The seminars will attempt to raise ethical and moral questions, and bring about a public awareness of the issues. $19,623.

Film on the Elderly (as yet untitled), submitted by the Fine Tuning Company. Phase 1, Scripting. The scripting of a 28-minute film exploring the problems, concerns, attitudes, traditions and situations of the elderly in Montana, with special emphasis on retirement. $2,836.

Women and Power, submitted by the Northwest Subregional Women's Studies Association and Women's Resource Center, UM. A three-day series of workshops and panel discussions (May 20-22, 1977) in Missoula addressing areas such as economic power, personal power, power through knowledge, and power through media. Participants discussed

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Thank You, RSVP

The Montana Committee for the Humanities wishes to express its appreciation to the Missoula Retired Senior Volunteer Program for its assistance in labelling and bundling this and our March Newletters, as well as our June letter requesting comments on New Directions, for bulk mailing. RSVP members who prepared our March Newsletters for mailing were: Catherine Arkell, Hazel Callahan, Virginia Clinker, Josephine Hirst, Dorotha Rexford, and Dorothy Winthrop. RSVP members who prepared our New Directions letter were: Catherine Arkell, Betty Browne, Hazel Callahan, Clara Chaffin, Erma Koontz, Ruth McDonald, Florence Mavity, Ann Serba, and Dorothy Winthrop.

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Nominations Invited

There will be five vacancies on the Montana Committee for the Humanities since the terms of office of five Committee members will end in December of 1977. Four of the five vacancies must be filled by academic humanists--college teachers in the liberal arts--while the fifth is open to any interested Montana resident.

The humanities are defined for MCH purposes as including history, philosophy, languages, literature, linguistics, archaeology, jurisprudence, ethics, comparative religion, the history and criticism of the arts and those aspects of the social sciences which employ *historical or philosophical* approaches. This last category includes anthropology, economics, geography, international relations, political science, sociology, and other subjects *concerned primarily with questions of value rather than quantitative matters.*

Academic humanists on the Committee are expected to encourage interest on their campuses in Committee-sponsored programs, seek the participation of humanists previously uninvolved in MCH programs, judge the humanities content of proposals under Committee review, and suggest new ways the humanities can be introduced to the general public.

The MCH invites nominations from members of the public, and from interested groups, clubs, or organizations. An individual may nominate himself or herself by sending a letter of application and a vita to the MCH; individuals or groups may nominate another person by sending a letter of recommendation, the nominee's vita, and a specific indication that the nominee has consented to the nomination. Nominations will close September 30, 1977.

The primary function of Committee members is to review grant applications and to evaluate funded programs. Committee members establish and implement regrant policies consistent with the authorizing legislation of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and are also expected to promote the aims of the MCH among the adult public in Montana, advise area citizens wishing to apply for grant funds, and assist the Committee staff with program development and evaluation.

Persons interested in serving as MCH members should have an interest in public affairs and in the liberal arts, a knowledge of Montana history and politics, a history of involvement in public service, and be willing to travel to meetings at least quarterly, and to review grant applications monthly. Travel and per diem expenses are reimbursed by the MCH, but members do not receive pay for their Committee work or for participation in MCH-funded public programs.

An independent citizens committee, the MCH seeks to be broadly representative of the state's geographic, political, and economic interests. Half of the Committee membership consists of public members, and half of academic humanists and administrators. Future vacancies will be announced as they occur.

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2nd Call for New Directions Advice

All of the Montana MCH newsletter readers have received a letter requesting their suggestions regarding what, if any, new kinds of programs the MCH should consider for future funding.

As explained in the June letter, the NEH requirement that all humanities public programs include discussions of specific public policy issues has been dropped.

While still convinced of the value of relating the humanities to issues of public policy, the MCH also wishes to consider other kinds of public programs in the humanities. The Committee would like opinions on whether it should consider funding any of the following: lecture series, film series, museum exhibits and interpretive materials for such exhibits, state and local history programs, TV series, and short "alumni college"-type workshops and seminars.

Further, the Committee would appreciate suggestions for new kinds of humanities public programs.

Those interested should write to MCH office by August 15.

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power women have, power women want, and different ways to attain power--traditional methods and new alternatives. $5,864.

Area History Preservation Workshop and Five Valley Public Forum of Missoula, submitted by the Missoula Area Arts Council. A workshop and forum (April 21 & 23, 1977) in Missoula which addressed the values of local history and how historical research can be encouraged. Issues discussed included: should history courses in public schools be mandatory? Should there be an emphasis placed on local history in teacher training and participation in "on site" research? $827.

Energy Bind--Outreach, submitted by the Institute of the Rockies. The outreach effort of a previously funded project held in Billings. Two programs will be conducted--one in Kalispell, July 20 and 26, and one in Hamilton, August 3, 6, & 7--to discuss current energy issues, policies and alternatives. $4,045.

Law Enforcement and the Minorities: The Individual, submitted by Northern Montana College. A 2 1/2 day conference in Havre (July 14-16) discussing public policy questions of sentencing, the right to a speedy trial, bail, and plea bargaining as they relate to minorities. $2,535.

The American West: The Myth and Reality, submitted by Rocky Mountain Historic Preservation and Restoration, Inc. A planning grant for a proposal submitted in July for a public program on the interdependence between Montana's economy and myths and images of the West. $306.

Transition Implications of Public Law 93-638, submitted by the Crow Central Education Commission. A one-day program at Crow Agency (May 12, 1977) which discussed the implications of the Indian Self-Determination Act--an act which gives recognized tribes the power to contract for services presently funded by

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STAFF NOTES

Having completed her first three years as Executive Director of the Montana Committee for the Humanities, Dr. Margaret Kingsland is spending her three-month sabbatical in England, France, and Italy, where she is doing art history research on Renaissance women painters. Until her return in September, her assistant, Angela Santamaria, is serving as MCH Acting Director and Christina Goble is Acting Administrative Assistant.

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the BIA. Some of the largest implications and changes can be seen in the area of education. $1,540.

Elderly Film--Wally Byum Segment, submitted by the Fine Tuning Company of Bozeman. Filming of the Wally Byum Caravan which came through Bozeman June 24-July 5. This is a portion of the production phase of a possible film on the elderly. $455.

Tribal Constitutions: Their Past, Their Future, submitted by the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. A 2-day program in Billings (August 12-13) to explore the issues surrounding tribal constitutions, specifically the issue of jurisdiction and sovereignty, vis-a-vis natural resources. $12,380.

Montana Death Trip, submitted by Chautauqua West (an ad hoc committee). Three evening lectures followed by one day workshops in Bozeman (July 29) Kalispell (August 5) and Lame Deer (August 26) discussing issues involved in rules, regulations, laws, and amenities relating to funeral and burial practices. $2,600.

Some Shall Prevail, submitted by the Montana League of Cities and Towns and the Institute of the Rockies. This is the third phase of a film project funded by the MCH. The film "Some Shall Prevail" will be shown this summer in several Montana towns--Plentywood Bridger, Conrad, Stevensville, Lewistown, and Three Forks. The discussions following the showing will explore the quality of life in small Montana towns and the forces which keep some going and cause others to die. $2,350.

Montana Year in Review, submitted by the Political Science Department, MSU. Planning grant for a proposal to be submitted in the fall for a conference to address the year's major public events and important developments in Montana. $650.

Elderhostel, submitted by the Center for Continuing Education and Summer Programs, UM. A 2-week program in Missoula (June 19-July 1) which was a campus residential program for senior citizens, enabling them to be students for two weeks and to explore such subject areas as literature, poetry, and western history. $4,440.

The Montana Committee for the Humanities

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